



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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SFWMD Awards Funding for Five Water Conservation Projects *WaterSIP grants help save millions of gallons of water each year*



(Click on image for larger version)

The District's Water Savings Incentive Program provides funding assistance to water providers and large users for installing water-saving technology, such as low-flow showerheads.

West Palm Beach, FL - Recognizing the importance of promoting and supporting water conservation, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board has approved investments in five projects for fiscal year 2010 through the agency's Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP).

"Water conservation remains the most cost-effective way of protecting and stretching South Florida's limited water supply well into the future," said SFWMD Governing Board Chair Eric Buermann. "For a modest investment, WaterSIP has helped save millions of gallons of water each year, protecting a valuable resource for more than 7.5 million people and our environment."

The five projects supported by WaterSIP in 2010 will save an estimated 102 million gallons of water per year. Once the projects are completed, the District will contribute nearly \$150,000 in funding assistance to the following recipients:

- **Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (\$75,000):** Retrofitting 1,000 homes owned by seniors or low-income residents and built before 1985 with high-efficiency showerheads, toilets and aerators.
- **Lee County Utilities (\$14,646):** Purchasing and installing 16 automatic flushing devices near the extreme ends of the potable water distribution system.
- **City of Fort Lauderdale (\$15,000):** Purchasing and installing 10 automatic flushing devices for potable water distribution lines near the boundaries of the city's service area.
- **Palm Beach Parks and Recreation Department (\$37,120):** Purchasing and installing a computerized irrigation management system for South County Regional Park.
- **City of North Miami Beach (\$8,000):** Installing battery-powered controllers and rain sensors in 40 medians.

Created in 2002, the Water Savings Incentive Program provides matching funds up to \$75,000 to water providers and large users for installing water-saving technology. Qualifying WaterSIP projects include high-efficiency irrigation equipment, low-flow indoor plumbing retrofits and automatic flushing devices.

From 2002 through 2009, the Water Savings Incentive Program has invested \$3.36 million in 116 projects throughout the District's 16-county region. Those projects have saved an estimated 2.1 billion gallons of water per year.

For more information about WaterSIP, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/watersip. For details on the District's Comprehensive Water Conservation Program and water conservation tips, please visit www.savewaterfl.com.

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About the South Florida Water Management District – [Celebrating 60 Years \(1949-2009\)](#)

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.